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MAY MEETING.

The Society held their stated monthly meeting on Thursday, May 8, at noon, at their rooms in Tremont Street, Boston; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The Librarian announced donations from the Department of State; Dr. Samuel A. Green; Rev. Cyrus A. Bartol; Henry White and Charles Hale, Esqs.; and Messrs. Shattuck, Sibley, and Winthrop, of this Society.

The Librarian having discovered a copy of Burnet on the Prophecies, in the garret of the Brattle-street Parsonage, — *Voted*, That the Librarian return the volume to the New-England Library of the Old South, to which it belongs; it not pertaining to the class of works in that library deposited with this Society.

Hon. JOHN R. BARTLETT, of Providence, R. I., was elected a Corresponding Member.

The Standing Committee reported that they have contracted for reprinting vols. viii. and ix. of the First Series of the Society's Collections; also that they have effected insurance upon the Society's books and pamphlets, in the sum of five thousand dollars, at three-fourths of one per cent, for the term of one year; also that they have fixed forty dollars as the price of a set of the Collections, and one dollar twenty-five cents per single volume.

It was also announced that the new volume of the Collections, containing Bradford's History, is printed, and will be ready for delivery in a few days.

Messrs. R. Frothingham, jun., Aspinwall, Sabine, and Livermore, were appointed a Committee to prepare and publish the fourth volume of the Fourth Series of the Collections.

On motion of Mr. SHATTUCK, — *Voted*, That a Committee be appointed to prepare a circular to be sent to the town-clerks of the several towns in the State, soliciting copies of all printed books, documents, and papers relating to the town or to matters therein, to be deposited in the archives of this Society; and also soliciting information concerning the history, extent, and present condition, of the records of the towns. And thereupon Messrs. Shattuck, Shurtleff, and Ames were appointed on the Committee.

MR. BARRY read a letter from his brother, Rev. William Barry, dated Chicago, April 28, 1856, in relation to the establishment of the Chicago Historical Society, for historical inquiry, collection, and publication, for Illinois and the North-west; showing their wide field of investigation, their wants and prospects.

Voted to refer this communication to the Standing Committee.

SPECIAL MEETING, MAY 22.

A special meeting of the Society, called by the Standing Committee, was held at the house of Hon. Nathan Appleton, in Beacon Street, Boston, on Thursday evening, May 22, at seven and a half o'clock; the President, Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.